Page 3, at the top of the page, insert:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

after line 22, insert:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-17 without prejudice, and insert the following new claims:

--18. A product, which is at least partly transparent and of optical quality equivalent to that of a window, which comprises a plastic core coated with a skin comprising at least one plastic film supporting a scratch-resistant layer.

19. The product of Claim 18, wherein said skin has a thickness of at most equal to 500 μm, and comprises of one or more transparent thermoformable plastic films made of polycarbonate, polypropylene, poly(methyl methacrylate) an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, poly(ethylene terephthalate), polyurethane, polyvinyl butyral or a cycloolefin copolymer, between which is interposed, or on which is deposited, at least one functional layer, wherein at least one of said thermoformable plastic films optionally constitutes one of said functional layers.

20. The product of Claim 19, wherein the scratch-resistant layer has a thickness of between 1 and 10 μm, and the scratch-resistant layer is inorganic, or consists essentially of networks of entangled inorganic and organic molecular chains linked to each other by silicon-carbon bonds.

21. The product of Claim 20, wherein said inorganic scratch-resistant layer consists essentially of polysiloxanes, silica or alumina.

22. The product of Claim 19, wherein the skin has an external surface which is hydrophobic/oleophobic and wherein an external layer of which the skin is composed comprises a hydrophobic/oleophobic agent, said external layer comprising said scratch-resistant layer, wherein said hydrophobic/oleophobic agent is incorporated, or of a thin layer, having a thickness of between 2 and 50 nm, consisting essentially of the said hydrophobic/oleophobic agent, said thin layer being obtained by grafting, or a layer of the said hydrophobic/oleophobic agent, said layer being supported on a film of poly(vinyl fluoride) or poly(vinylidene fluoride).

23. The product of Claim 22, wherein aid hydrophobic agent is a fluorinated polysilane.

24. The product of Claim 18, wherein said skin includes at least one decorative or masking layer or both covering all or part of the surface of the product, said layer being positioned directly under the film supporting the scratch-resistant layer.

25. The product of Claim 18, wherein said skin includes at least one adhesion layer constituting the internal surface of the skin intended to come directly into contact with the core of the product.

26. The product of Claim 18, wherein the skin includes one or more optically selective layers, having thicknesses of between 2 and 35 nm and separated from each other, as well as from other adjacent layers or films, by dielectric layers.

27. The product of Claim 25, wherein said optically selective layers are metal layers.

28. The product of Claim 18, wherein said core comprises of a thermoplastic, comprising polycarbonate, poly(methylmethacrylate), an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, poly(ethylene terephthalate), polyurethane or a cycloolefin copolymer, or an ionomer resin or

a thermosetting or thermally crosslinkable material of the polyurethane, unsaturated polyester, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, or a combination of several thicknesses of the same one or several of these plastics, wherein the core thus formed is chemically compatible with the said skin and is capable of giving the assembly the required mechanical properties.

29. The product of Claim 18, which is bent and in that it forms a motor-vehicle window having, in particular, the regulation optical properties.

30. The product of Claim 18, wherein the scratch-resistant layer has a surface appearance without any crazing.

31. A process for manufacturing the product of Claim 18, which comprises:

a) first, in assembling constituent elements of a skin by laying them approximately flat, or by supplying them from a device of developable shape, and optionally, subjecting the constituent elements of the skin to consolidation, then,

b) secondly, subjecting the skin to heat treatment, the skin being supported completely or partly by a mould surface, an auxiliary means for shaping at least part of the skin to the said mould surface, being optionally provided so as to relax stresses in the skin, and crosslinking certain constituent elements thereof; and

c) third, in joining the skin to a plastic core by hot pressing in a form, or by thermoplastic injection moulding or reactive injection moulding of the material of the core, the skin having been positioned in the bottom of the mould in such a way that its constituent scratch-resistant layer and/or hydrophobic/oleophobic layer is in direct contact with the mould.

32. The process of Claim 31, wherein aid constituent elements are supplied by screen printing, flexography, ink-jet printing, laser printing, dip coating or spraying.

33. The process of Claim 31, wherein in step b), said heat treatment is effected at 100° to 300°C.

34. A process for manufacturing the product of Claim 18, which comprises:

a) depositing the constituent elements of a scratch-resistant layer on a substantially flat plastic film; and

b) shaping said film bearing the elements of the scratch-resistant layer into a shape which is the same as or at least similar to the ultimate shape of the end-product, at least in certain parts, while at the same time at least partly crosslinking this scratch-resistant layer.

35. The process of Claim 31, wherein the crosslinking and simultaneous shaping involve a heat treatment at a temperature of between 100 and 300°C, and more precisely between 140 and 240°C.

36. The process of Claim 34, wherein the shaping is carried out by supporting the film coated with the scratch-resistant layer, or the elements intended to constitute this layer, at least on part of its surface, by a mould.

37. The process of Claim 36, wherein the mould carrying the film is a frame open at its center.

38. The process of Claim 34, wherein the film coated with the scratch-resistant layer of elements constituting this layer is combined, before shaping, with one or more other films which themselves fulfill functions or carry means, such as screen-printed decorations or layers, carrying out these functions other than the scratch-resistance function.

39. A method of incorporating a body element, at least a portion of which is transparent, in a manufactured object, which comprises incorporating the product of Claim 18 into said manufactured object.--